

Levantine Arabic transcript:

أسماء الأطفال

أنس: إحنا عنا المراه بس تجوز يعني بعد فتره قصيره إنها بتحمل ولما بتخلف المراه في إلي هيا أول شغلي بعملوها بقولك انو باذنوا في ذان الطفل بأنو الاذان. والتسميه عادة بتكون اذا انو ولد بسموه على إسم أبو أبوه وإذا انو بنت بسموها على إسم إم أبوها. وأغلب الأسمي إلي بسموها عنا إسم محمد لأنو النبي تبعنا وبرضوا بنفس الوقت بسموا عبد الله أو عبد الخالق أو عبد المنعم واللي هني أسماء الله. الله في إلو تسعه وتسعين إسم والله إلي هو الإسم الميه، فلما بيجوا بسموا بسموا عبد وبضيفوا إلو إسم من إسماء الله فبتلاقي أنو مية اسم مختلفات ببلشن بعد، بالإضافة إلى محمد أو مصطفى أو طه و إلي هني أسماء مختلفه للرسول عليه الصلاة والسلام.

English translation:

Anas: Here when a woman gets married, after a short period of time she gets pregnant, and when she has a baby ... there is ... the first thing they do is they say the *athan* in the child's ear. They say the *athan*.¹ And usually the naming ... naming the child If it's a boy, they name him after his father's father, and if it's a girl they name her after her father's mother. And one of the names used the most here is Mohammed, and at the same time people name children Abdallah or Abdelkhalig or Abdelmun'im that are the names of God. God has 99 names (Allah is the 100th name). So when they name, they use Abd² and they add one of the names of God to that. So you find that there are 100 different names that start with Abd ... in addition to Mohammed, or Mustafa, or Taha which are all different names for the prophet (peace be upon him).

About CultureTalk: CultureTalk is produced by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages and housed on the LangMedia Website. The project provides students of language and culture with samples of people talking about their lives in the languages they use everyday. The participants in CultureTalk interviews and discussions are of many different ages and walks of life. They are free to express themselves as they wish. The ideas and opinions presented here are those of the participants. Inclusion in CultureTalk does not represent endorsement of these ideas or opinions by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages, Five Colleges, Incorporated, or any of its member institutions:

¹ *Athan*. Call to prayer.

² Abd – Servant of.

Amherst College, Hampshire College, Mount Holyoke College, Smith College and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

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